

Appl. No. 09/935,440
Amdt. dated March 9, 2005
Reply to Office action of December 10, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have received the Office action dated December 10, 2004, in which the Examiner: (1) rejected claims 1-8, 9-12,¹ 13, 21-24, 26-32 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gervais (U.S. Pat. No. 5,856,974); (2) rejected claims 14 and 17 under § 103(a) as being obvious over Gervais in view of Rowett (U.S. Pat. No. 5,991,817); (3) rejected claim 15 as obvious over Gervais in view of Rowett and Leung (U.S. Pat. No. 6,636,498); (4) rejected claim 16 as obvious over Gervais in view of Rowett, Leung and Matsuzawa (U.S. Pat. No. 6,389,023); (5) rejected claims 18 and 20 as obvious over Gervais in view of Rowett and Tsukakoshi (U.S. Pat. No. 6,577,634) and Civanlar (U.S. Pat. No. 6,078,963); (6) rejected claim 19 as obvious over Gervais in view of Rowett and Matsuzawa; (7) rejected claim 25 as obvious over Gervais in view of Bommareddy (U.S. Pat. No. 6,779,039); and (8) rejected claims 33 and 35-37 as obvious over Gervais in view of what was well known in the art at the time the invention was made.

With this Response, Applicants amend claims 1, 22, 26, 28, and 29, cancel claims 12 and 30, and submit new claims 41-42. Based on the arguments and amendments contained herein, Applicants believe all claims to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants amend claim 1 to include the limitations from now canceled claim 12. Claim 1 now recites that the "NNA includes a mask register for transforming the global/local cluster addresses in which bit substitutions can be made before an entire address has arrived at the NNA." The Examiner points to a passage from the Abstract of Gervais for allegedly teaching this limitation. That passage, however, says nothing of transforming an address by bit substitutions that are made "before an entire address has arrived." Gervais teaches using a look-up table to translate an address. See column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 4 ("the address mapping gateway maintains an address mapping table that

¹ The Summary page of the Office Action indicates claims 7 and 12 to be allowable, but in the text of the Action, the Examiner articulated a reason for rejecting claims 7 and 12. Clarification is requested.

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provides a cross-reference..."). One of ordinary skill in the art would know, and Gervais does not teach otherwise, that the use of a look-up table to translate an address requires the complete address to first be received. Claim 1, by contrast, recites bit substitutions to be made prior to receipt of the entire address that is being transformed. This feature is not taught, nor even possible, in Gervais. None of the other art of record teaches or suggests this feature. For at least this reason, claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the art of record.

Applicants amend claim 22 to specify that "transforming the local cluster ID into a global cluster ID begins to occur before the local cluster ID is completely received by the NNA." As explained above, Gervais necessarily requires the entire address to be received before the "address mapping table" can be used to translate the address. For at least this reason, claim 22 and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the art of record.

New claim 41 has been added dependent on claim 22. Claim 41 specifies that "transforming the global cluster ID into a local cluster ID begins to occur before the global cluster ID is completely received by the NNA." This limitation is not taught nor suggested in the art of record, as explained previously.

Applicants amend claim 26 to specify that "transforming the global cluster address into a local cluster address begins to occur before the global cluster address is completely received by the NNA." As explained above, Gervais requires the entire address to be received before the "address mapping table" can be used to translate the address. For at least this reason, claim 26 and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the art of record.

New claim 42 has been added dependent on claim 26. Claim 42 specifies that "transforming the local cluster address into a global cluster address begins to occur before the local cluster address is completely received by the NNA." This limitation is not disclosed in the art of record.

Applicants amend claim 28 to specify that "transforming the local cluster address and transforming the global cluster address begin to occur before the local and global cluster addresses, respectively, are completely received by the

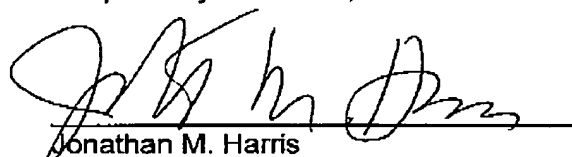
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translation means." As explained above, Gervais necessarily requires the entire address to be received before the "address mapping table" can be used to translate the address. For at least this reason, claim 28 and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the art of record.

Applicants amend claim 29 to require that address transforming begins to occur before the address that is being transformed is completely received. As explained above, Gervais necessarily requires the entire address to be received before the "address mapping table" can be used to translate the address. For at least this reason, claim 29 and all claims dependent therefrom are allowable over the art of record.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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